

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 10-17 have been canceled without prejudice to the Applicants' filing of a continuing application that claim the subject matter of these claims.

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 6-9 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 has hereby been amended and rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1. Claim 7 depends on rewritten claim 6; claims 8-9 depend on claim 7. Therefore, claims 6-9 are allowable and their allowance is earnestly solicited.

Claims 18-41 have been allowed over the prior art of record. Allowed claim 40 has been amended to correct a typographical error. In the specification at page 7, lines 9-13, Applicants teach,

"The user may digitally sign the request for access, the user's digital signature may be included with the request for access in a wrapper that is sent with the security context to the processing system, the user's digital signature may be checked by the processing system, and access to the resource may be granted only if the user's digital signature is authenticated." (Emphasis added.)

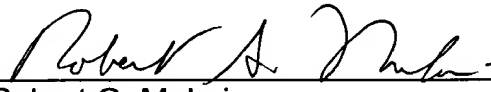
Claim 40 has been amended to accurately claim that the processing system checks the user's digital signature. Prior claim 40's recitation that the logon component checks the user's digital signature was a typographical error. Entry of the amendment to claim 40 is respectfully requested.

With the cancellation without prejudice of claims 1-5 and 10-17, the previous allowance of claims 18-41, and the amendments to claims 6 and 40, this application is in condition for allowance and such next action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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